

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

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INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LILONGWE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS LUSAKA 3011

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, ZA, RH

SUBJECT: ZAMBIAN PRESS INTERPRETATION OF GENEVA DEVELOPMENTS

1. SUNDAY TIMES OF ZAMBIA NOV 7 CARRIED TWO ARTICLES ON
GENEVA DEVELOPMENTS BY JUSTIN NYOKA, A RHODESIAN, SALIS-
BURY-BASED FREELANCE REPORTER CURRENTLY ACTING AS A
STRINGER FOR TIMES OF ZAMBIA IN GENEVA.

2. IN FRONT-PAGE PIECE ENTITLED "ZIPA LEADERS DASH TO
WAR FRONT" NYOKA COVERED CONFERENCE DIFFICULTIES
OVER SETTING DATE FOR RHODESIA INDEPENDENCE. HE NOTED
THE ZANU SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCEMENT THAT FIVE ZANU
OFFICIALS, INCLUDING JOSIAH TONGOGARA, HAD LEFT
GENEVA FOR MOZAMBIQUE TO BRIEF NATIONALIST
ARMY COMMANDERS IN THE FIELD ON THE TALKS. NYOKA
ALSO REPORTED THAT THERE WAS WIDESPREAD DISILLUSIONMENT
WITHIN ZANU RANKS WITH PROGRESS OF THE TALKS AND
SPECULATION IN GENEVA THAT DEPARTING DELEGATION
REPRESENTED THE DISPATCH OF ABLE LEADERS TO SPEARHEAD
THE NATIONALISTS OFFENSIVE AGAINST THE SMITH REGIME.
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EM IN ANOTHER ARTICLE NYOKA ARGUED THAT THREE PRONGED EFFORT BY SMITH TO WRECK GENEVA TALKS HAD FAILED BECAUSE NATIONALISTS FAILED TO RISE TO THE BAIT. NYOKA WROTE THAT SMITH PURSUED A POLICY OF DELIBERATELY INSULTING THE NATIONALIST LEADERS, ESPECIALLY ROBERT MUGABE, IN GENEVA HOPING TO IRRITATE THEM ENOUGH TO FORCE THEIR WALK-OUT. WHEN THIS FAILED, SMITH LEFT FOR RHODESIA AND LEFT PIETER KENYON FELMING, A DETESTED RACIST FIGURE, IN CHARGE OF THE RHODESIAN DELEGATION HOPING THIS WOULD PROVOKE THE NATIONALISTS. LASTLY, WHEN THE FIRST TWO EFFORTS FAILED, NYOKA MAINTAINS THAT SMITH UNLEASHED THE ATTACKS ON MOZAMBIQUE IN ORDER TO FORCE A ZANU WALK-OUT. NYOKA ADDS THAT, WHILE TENSIONS WITHIN THE ZANU/ZIPA DELEGATION ROSE IN THE WAKE OF THE ATTACKS, THE NATIONALISTS HELD FIRM AND DID NOT WALK OUT, NOR DISSOLVE THEIR PARTRIOTIC FRONT. NYOKA CONCLUDED THAT NATIONALISTS, BECAUSE THEY ARE AWARE OF HOW TRICKY SMITH IS IN NEGOTIATION, DID NOT FALL INTO HIS TRAP.

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